

ASKED TO SERVE IN CASE OF WAR

District Guard Officers Must Answer Question.

ON FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE

Letter from Adjutant General Calls
Attention to the Fact that the
Law Requires the Pledge of Every
Officer in Case of Hostilities,
Whether at Home or Abroad.

Every commissioned officer of the National Guard of the District will have received by to-morrow night a positive and categorical indication that the reorganization of the brigade is now in full progress and that it means serious business to all concerned.

This significant fact is brought home forcibly to each militia officer in a personal letter from the adjutant general, calling for an immediate, unequivocal, and confidential reply to the question whether or not the officer will pledge his services in the field in case war is declared.

Kept on Record.

An affirmative answer to this question, which, of course, be kept on record at militia headquarters, is virtually equivalent to volunteering for service in any war, either at home or abroad, in which this country may become involved with the officer in question holds his commission.

The letter calls attention to the fact that under recent statutory provisions the National Guard, or organized militia, is to serve as the first line of defense in case of war, and that before the reorganization of the brigade takes place the commanding general desires a precise and prompt declaration from each officer as to what his intentions are in case of hostilities.

"Should it seem clear to you," the letter says, "that circumstances would not permit you to serve in war, you will so state, giving such reasons as you care to advance. If, on the other hand, you feel at liberty to pledge your services, you will so announce. Your conclusions should be set forth in positive terms, in which no misunderstanding may be possible."

Strictly Confidential.

The replies are to be indorsed on the back of the letter and forwarded to headquarters without delay. They will be regarded as strictly confidential, and are to be so marked on the envelope, or delivered to the adjutant general in person.

The few militia officers who yesterday happened to see the letter at brigade headquarters realized its significance at once.

The general militia law provides that the National Guard of the States and Territories shall be called into the field as a reserve to the regular army, and in advance of any volunteer troops, as soon as war is declared.

The militia men will no longer volunteer, but will be ordered out for the time of their enlistment. Any militia man who is commissioned officer who fails to report will be tried by court-martial, in which one-half of the members of the court will be regular officers.

Under General Act.

Through recent legislation the District National Guard is now brought under the provisions of the general act. All these laws will be weighed by the officers of the brigade before they pledge their services in writing to give their services in case of war.

A commissioned officer may resign, but he is liable for duty until his resignation is accepted, and the acceptance of it remains optional with the President.

It is thought doubtful if on the outbreak of war the President would accept the resignation of any officer who seemed to desire to avoid service, or who seemed to have been placed upon him, and which he has voluntarily accepted, and more especially if a written pledge of his services was on file at militia headquarters.

In case of war the law no longer allows the National Guard, either enlisted men or commissioned officers, to decide as to whether they shall go or not. The present letter from Col. Smiley, adjutant general, D. C. N. G., is in reality merely a hint to the District officers as to the new regime, and offers any man who for divers reasons could not go to war a chance to withdraw gracefully before the new and stringent regulations are put into effect.

Serious for Men.

It has not been decided just what action will be taken in case of an officer who declines to serve, or who declines to take the field in case of war, but there is a tacit understanding that he should resign from the guard.

As far as could be learned yesterday, the great majority of the District officers will send in prompt and enthusiastic pledges of their services in any war in which this country may become involved.

The question is a more serious one for the enlisted men, especially those who have families to support. They, too, will be ordered out in case of war, and unlike the officers, will not have an opportunity to decline to serve.

Officers of the District militia are now informing those who wish to join their organizations that just as ignorance of the law is an excuse for no one, ignorance of the new obligations assumed in enlisting in the National Guard cannot be pleaded as an excuse for not taking the field when the command is ordered out in case of war.

May Drop Out.

It is thought that under the reorganization of the older men, who have family obligations which would make it almost impossible for them to go to war, will drop out of their present organizations and join either the reserve or the coast artillery companies, which, in the event of hostilities, would be stationed near the city at Forts Hunt and Washington.

As a further indication of the new

order of things, there has just been issued from brigade headquarters a circular which has all the warlike ring of a communication sent to troops about to engage in a campaign.

The circular declares that the absolute essentials of a fighting command are ability to form line from column and column from line, to deploy properly, and to fire properly. The company commanders are urged to devote all their energy to training

ESSENTIAL OILS IN SICILY

Effects of Earthquake on Citrus Products

Factories for Making Fruit Extracts and Juices First to Be Established.

One of the results of the earthquake in Italy has been to double and, in some cases, to triple the cost of essential oils and other products of citrus fruit orchards, which are so extensively used in the arts in this country. Merchants in New York and elsewhere have been complaining to the government about the increase in the price of these products.

The bureau, through the consular agencies, has collected considerable information upon the subject, which has been summarized in a report.

No bergamots are grown in Sicily, and no bergamot oil is produced in this consular district. The whole supply has been coming from a small section of Southern Italy, and has been shipped to the consular district in 1907.

The great production of essential oils, including orange oil, has been at Messina and the citrus fruits, such as citrate of lime, citric acid, etc. It is believed, however, that the panic of alarm from the disaster is being used to some extent as an element of speculation.

A considerable quantity of citrus fruits, such as lemons, oranges, and citrate of lime, were destroyed in the earthquake. The destruction of Messina, factories remain in the small towns near there, such as Ascoli and Barletta, and, as the time demanded for manufacture is long, fruit which would, under ordinary circumstances, have been exported, will be rapidly made up into essences, etc., and the price of these products may, therefore, be soon expected to drop much nearer to a normal level.

It was one of the signs of awakening life at Messina that two manufacturers of citrate of lime, Messrs. G. and G. Gazzi, a suburb of that city, before January 20, had some 10,000 families in the provinces of Messina and Catania, engaged in the industries following the harvesting of the citrus fruits, were thrown out of employment by the earthquake.

Evening.

There is only a star in the sky.

On the wailing water the breeze dies away in the ghost of a sigh.

Over the meadow and marsh comes the cheer of the frog and a dream in the trees.

Are the wren and the robin asleep.

Now rises the moon like a frail, floating bubble just over the hill.

At the far leaping call of the still.

All the dark brooding forest is still.

Save the sea and the wind, and the gray forest deepens as softly as night.

And the rivulet drowses on its way.

—William Griffith, in Hampton's Magazine.

REAL ESTATE TRANSFERS FOR THE PAST WEEK

(Monday, March 22, 1909.)

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 1, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 2, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 3, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 4, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 5, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 6, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 7, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 8, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 9, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 10, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 11, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 12, square 308, \$10,000.

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St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 14, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 15, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 16, square 308, \$10,000.

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St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 25, square 308, \$10,000.

St. George and Sixth streets—Edward J. Hinton to Richard P. Hartnett, lot 26, square 308, \$10,000.

DAILY COURT RECORD.

DISTRICT COURTS.

Saturday, March 27, 1909.

Court of Appeals.

Admored from day to day until April 6, 1909.

Equity Court No. 1.

JUSTICE BARBARA.
No. 2321. In re estate of John Brown.

Equity Court No. 2.

JUSTICE STAFFORD.
Assignment for Monday, March 28, 1909.

Circuit Court No. 1.

JUSTICE STAFFORD.
Assignments for Tuesday, March 30, 1909.

Circuit Court No. 2.

CHIEF JUSTICE CLAFORD.
Assignments for Monday, March 29, 1909.

Criminal Court No. 1.

JUSTICE GOULD.
United States vs. Frank D. Elder, larceny; recommitment in \$500 taken.

Criminal Court No. 2.

JUSTICE ANDERSON.
Hayes vs. W. H. Davis—Harden Johnson, re trial.

Probate Court.

JUSTICE WHITE.
Estate of John Brown, petition for letters testate.

Equity Suits.

No. 2322. Sallie L. Nairn vs. Thomas S. Nairn, divorce.

Law Suits.

No. 2323. James Rabinovich vs. Capital Traction Company, damages, \$10,000.

DEEDS OF TRUST.

Handle Park—Randolph L. Jennings in Chapin Brown and Henry H. Bergmann, to secure Building Association, No. 6, \$100,000, lot 3, block 2.

Handle Park—August Volz et al. to Isaac E. Shoenberger and Jesse H. Wilson, to secure Building Association, No. 6, \$100,000, lot 3, block 2.

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DOCTOR FORGETS HIS NAME,

FATHER FORGETS HIS BABY.

Physician's Mind Is Blank After Stockton Man Cannot Remember Fifteen Years of His Wedded Life.

Stockton, Cal., March 27.—Postmaster Ellis, of this city, received a letter a few days ago from Mrs. D. E. Wyandt, who hastened to El Centro on receipt of the news that her husband, lost since last June, had been found. She writes that on meeting her he called her "May," and seemed deeply affected, expressing a fervent wish that he could "get it all straight."

The fifteen years of their married life are blotted from Mr. Wyandt's mind. Asked if he wanted to see his child, he said if the child was his he certainly wanted to see it. He expressed wonder that he was not found before, as he lived an open life at El Centro. Mrs. Wyandt will remain a few days in the hope of persuading her husband to return to Stockton.

San Francisco, Cal., March 27.—A curious case of lapse of memory engaging the attention of the physicians of the Central Emergency Hospital. Dr. J. S. Richards, who recently was graduated from an Eastern medical college, walked into the place and asked for medical attention. He said that for more than a week he had wandered in the streets, sleeping in the parks, unable to remember who he was, where he came from, or where he could find his friends.

On the morning he visited the hospital he recovered sufficiently to recall his identity. He arrived recently from Portland, Ore., and was on his way to Los Angeles, when he went into a drug store with a friend, whose name he gave. After that his memory was a blank.

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